

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Waters et al.

Application No. 10/753,262

Filed: January 5, 2004

Confirmation No. 6703

For: STRUCTURED ALGORITHMIC
PROGRAMMING LANGUAGE
APPROACH TO SYSTEM DESIGN

Examiner: Naum B. Levin

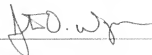
Art Unit: 2825

Attorney Reference No. 1011-67363-01

CERTIFICATE OF FILING

I hereby certify that this paper and the documents referred to as being attached or enclosed herewith are being filed via EFS on the date shown below.

Attorney or Agent
for Applicant(s)



Date Mailed December 13, 2006

FILED VIA EFS ON December 13, 2006

RESPONSE

This responds to the Office action dated November 13, 2006. Claims 41-87 are pending in the application. The Examiner has divided the claims into three groups and required an election of one group under 35 U.S.C. § 121. Table 1 below shows the claim groups as currently restricted by the Examiner.

Group I	Claims 41-50, 69-71, and 79-83
Group II	Claims 51-62 and 72-74
Group III	Claims 63-68, 75-78, and 84-87

Table 1

Applicants elect Group II with traverse. Applicants respectfully disagree with the restriction requirement and with the Examiner's characterizations of the claims.

The Present Application Should Be Examined in its Entirety Because Such Examination Can Be Made Without Serious Burden

According to M.P.E.P. § 803, “If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions.” Applicants have reviewed the application and have concluded that examination of the entire application can be made without serious burden. For example, a first Office action (mailed April 12, 2006) has already been issued prior to the present Office action. The first Office action included rejections of all the claims. Therefore, the Examiner has already examined each claim so further examination should not warrant serious burden. Furthermore, Applicants’ response to the first Office action included no claim amendments. As such, continued examination of the claims that have already been fully examined should pose no serious burden on the Examiner. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully traverse the restriction requirement.

In the event that the Examiner disagrees, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 41, 63, and 69, along with corresponding dependent claims, should be grouped together because, for example, claim 41 recites in part “transforming plural methods of the interface into plural ports of a port map of a lower-level specification for a design unit,” claim 63 recites in part “one or more modules for translating the object-oriented description into a lower-level specification having plural ports specified according to defined semantics for the interface of the object-oriented description,” and claim 69 recites in part “receiving a lower-level specification produced by transforming the programming language specification into the lower-level specification, the lower-level specification having plural ports specified according to defined semantics for the interface of the programming language specification.”

Conclusion

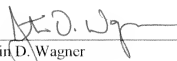
Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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